## THE NATIONAL ERA.

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WASHINGTON, JUNE 27, 1850.

#### TO NONE BUT OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

This is the last number of the first half of the fourth volume of the Era. Our subscribers, whose terms expire with this number, will, we are sure, be prompt in renewing; and, so far as ber may utter, no matter how repugnant to the the hot weather may allow, exert themselves to sentiments or interests of others, no matter with furnish us with new readers. Five dollars, they | what pertinacity, boldness, and independence he will recollect, will renew their own subscription and pay for two new subscribers.

We have been so crowded since the commencement of the present session of Congress, with our columns was impossible, and no room was spared for the accommodation of our contributorsto be able to distribute some of the treasures we derly. have been laying up for so many months. much larger space will be devoted to our Literaty

Three numbers more will close the story of the Mother-in-Law. To the remaining portion of the among the contributors, Grace Greenwood, Martha Russell, Mary Irving, Mrs. H. B. Stowe, Henry B. Stanton, and C. H. Wiley of North Carolina. a new correspondent.

It is with unalloyed satisfaction we inform our readers that the gifted Grace Greenwood is to be a permanent contributor to the Fra

We have on hand a series of most agreeable sketches from the pen of Martha Russell, entitled "Sketches of our Village," presenting very lively delineations of the social life of New England.

We hope, too, for something more from the genius of Nathaniel Hawthorne, who some time since favored us with one of the most admirable allegorical sketches in the English language. To the consideration of the great question which agitates so deeply the public mind, and is destined for a long time to come to fill the hearts

ever energies we may possess Come, then, friends; let us have the benefit of your continued association and cooperation, and in libitly widening circle of readers.

and thoughts of the people, we shall devote what-

#### PERSONALITIES.

The Senate of the United States, once famed for its decorum, is becoming rather notorious for its toleration of discreditable personalities. Nothing is more common in its proceedings, than to substitute a question of consistency for one of principle, a personal for a logical issue. If an argument cannot be answered, the motives of the man who uses it may be impugued. Opposition to a of the Slave-Interest, is often attempted to be put down by derision and contempt. The assailants of an abuse are favored with general lectures on demagoguism; and to manifest a strong antislavery feeling is to give evidence of fanaticism or pharissical sanctity.

We said once before, and we repeat that the Senate, for these violations of its decorum, is more censurable than the individual culprits. The debater, sometimes blinded by his intemperate zeal, unless checked by those who are listening calmly and with a critical ear, is hurried into expressions from which he would shrink, could he but think twice before speaking once. But, we on the position and character of the actors in none of her pretensions, a Convention became these personal conflicts. If the assailant holds opinions popular in the Senate, and the assailed be generally obnoxious on account of his position, the dignity of the body winks at the assault, but is shocked at the defence. Mr. Benton well remarked-"Everybody is in order but me. It is in order for everybody to attack me on all hands." Mr. Webster was a gratified listener of Mr. Dawson, when that gentleman made his onslaught on Mr. Hale, reading from private letters with a view to impeach his integrity; but, he was exceedingly pained at the disorder growing out of the reading of private letters in a scene between Clay and Benton-indeed, hereafter he should feel bound to call gentlemen to order for such things! It would be well for him and some others to remember, that the dignity of the Senate is best vindicated by the impartiality with which its rules are enforced

While on this subject of personalities, we are reminded of the fact that the demeanor of members of Congress towards each other depends greatly upon the state of sentiment in their respective localities respecting the mode of settling personal controversies. And here, we must remark that members from the free States labor under some disadvantage in their political intercourse with their brethren from the South. In the former section, the code of honor, as it is styled, is obsolete; in the latter, it is of binding force. In the former, for the settlement of personal controversies, Reason asserts its supremacy over Brute Force, and so strongly does public sentiment reprobate resort to the duello, that the duellist risks his reputation and his liberty, and is quite sure to exclude himself from the hope of political preferment. In the latter, public sentiment sanctions the practice of duelling, and the man who declines to vindicate his honor by the explosion of gunpowder, is voted unfit for public station. The result is, that we find in Congress two classes of members-duellists, coming from the South, men of peace, coming from the North. The bearing of members towards each other is determined to a great extent by this fact. Northern men are not apt to indulge in invective against Southern men, for they are sure to run the risk of an insult which the sentiments of their constituencies forbid them to resent according to the so-called "code of honor." Southern members, while treating each other, as a general rule, with marked courtesy, studiously avoiding expressions that may lead to personal conflict, exhibit a different demeanor in their intercourse with their Northern associates. In cases of differences of opinion with them, they are apt to be overbearing, arrogant, contemptuous; they are guilty of personalities which are watchfully guarded against in their intercourse with each other. The reason is obvious : they are emboldened by impunity; they are aware that public sentiment at the North forbids a man taking deliberate and bloody vengeance for an insult. To abuse a Northern member is a cheap and safe mode of displaying their valor-one of their modes of establishing their claim to domineer.

Of course, our remarks have a general signification. There are a few Southern men who repudiate the laws of honor, as they are called-a few Northern men who recognise them. There are a few Southern men, too, who are always gress sanction it, it only enacts the Wilmot Procourteous, whatever may be the party with whom they are drawn into conflict; and a few Northern members whose peculiar position or distinction exempts them from abuse from any quarter.

But the general truth of the difference we have pointed out, must be admitted by all who are familiar with the proceedings of Congress. We have no doubt that, on the question of slavery, many Northern men are restrained from more frequent and earnest expression of their opinions, by the dread of the vituperation to which it may expose them-vituperation which their princi-Southern duellists. The truth is, if any consideration under heaven could overcome our conscientious abhorrence of the bloody code of duelling, it would be that of the gross abuse to which members of Congress from the free States are | Congress may declare free a slave, imported into continually subjected, on account of their known

We submit now to Southern men-is it honor-

themselves transgressors of the proprieties of dehate. The man who throws stones may expect to be stoned. He who indulges in abuse of another, and then takes shelter under a profession of peace-principles, is just as contemptible as he who gratuitously wounds the feelings of one who, he knows, is restrained from calling him to an account. But, a difference of opinion is no just cause of offence. No matter what views a memmay insist upon them, so long as he maintains the decorum of debate, denouncing no man for dissent, questioning the motives of no one, it is a violation of the freedom of debate, of the order reports of debates and speeches, that variety in of a legislative body, it is repugnant to common sense and ordinary courtesy, to attempt to put him down by vituperative invective; and, if he But everything has an end, and Congress can be be known to be a man of peace, opposed to the no exception to the rule. It will adjourn, we code of honor so-called, such invective is as mean presume, some time in August, and then we hope and cowardly as it is unreasonable and disor-

ADDRESS OF THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION.

Our columns are too crowded at present by Congressional matter, to allow us to publish the Address of the Nashgille Convention. Our readers will be reconciled to this by the consrueration that the Convention was not a fair representation of the slaveholding States, and had no authority to speak for them. Its opinions and acts must be regarded as those of a few restless politicians, dissatisfied with the existing relations between the two sections of the country, but without a clear understanding of what they themselves want.

We must, however, present a general view o the Address.

It commences with a survey of the agitation of the Slavery Question for the last sixteen years. Before this period, the Northern people gave no just cause of offence to the South; but sixteen years ago, slavery began to be agitated in Congress and assailed by "our sister States" The means of agitation first resorted to was, petitioning; the object being the abolition of Slavery in the South, although the memorials were confined in terms to the removal of the institution from the District of Columbia and Territories, and the abolition of the internal slave trade. To meet this evil, a resolution, sustained by a large purchased Not Live Root treating for making against the reception of all such petitions; but in December, 1844, it fell before the unanimous voice of the North, and thus the unlimited power of introducing and considering the subject of slavery in Congress was asserted.

But agitation in Congress was not the only grievance. Anti-slavery publications were issued at the North, anti-slavery lecturers were employed, organizations were got up for running off slaves, almost every Northern Legislature passed measure, especially if the latter be the offspring laws designed to baffle the constitutional provision for the recapture of fugitives.

The result was, universal agitation in Congress and out of it, with a view to the overthrow of an institution over which the States maintaining it, had exclusive control-as injurious as it was insulting to the South

The Mexican war broke out-the subject of lavery was thrust into that question by the North-the war terminated in the acquisition of Territories, and the North proceeded in their threatened design to exclude therefrom the Southern people. Its policy was not the offspring of a mere lust of power, but of a determination to effect the abolition of slavery in the have observed that the carefulness of that body | States. The Southern States through their to maintain its rules of order depends very much | Legislatures protested, but the North abating

In what condition has the agitation placed the Southern States? In Congress their Representatives are insulted and reviled-that body is little better than a grand instrument in the hands of the Abolitionists. In the North, instead of respect and sympathy, they meet with denunciation and hostility. In the Union, the attempt is made to arrest from them their common property and put upon them the brand of inferiority. And the worst feature of their condition is that it is progressive. Yield now to the demands of the North, and all is lost. In fifty years, twenty new non-slaveholding States will be added to the Union, whilst many now slaveholding will join them. The non-slaveholding States will then have the power by two-thirds of Congress and three-fourths of the States to amend the Constitution, and consummate their policy.

The North has been emboldened by the forbearance and non-action of the South, until "a sectional despotism, totally irresponsible to the People of the South constituted of Representatives in Congress from non-slaveholding States, ignorant of Southern feelings, conditions, and institutions, reigns at Washington."

tions are identical, one may be safely subject to the other. But, slavery makes the Southern, a peculiar people, with interests and institutions different from those of the Northern People, and hence the vital necessity of independence in rela- minating it is, by concession to the slaveholders. It what the author calls good authority, that his sention to their internal concerns. They must rule themselves or perish.

The North will not recognise the inferiority of the African to the Caucasian race, or the impossibility of amalgamation between the two races. Its sympathies naturally are not with the South; and its dogma-the absolute right of a majority to govern-prostrates every check upon power, and leads to consolidation. Its faithlessness to the compact of union is not surprising-it is only another exemplification of the frailty and fallibility of our nature.

Hence, there is no safety for the South in submission. Being in the minority, it must protect itself and preserve the Constitution. But how? Not by the ordinary measures of the Government. Not by changing its Representatives, for how can that affect the majority ? Not by the ballot-box: that is powerless in the South. It cannot send a majority of Southern Representatives to Congress. In fact, the majority against the South in the present Congress is greater than ever ; while in the Northern States no indications are afforded of a reviving respect for the Consti-

The Address points to no mode by which the South can protect itself and preserve the Constitution. All ordinary means, it pronounces worthless-the extraordinary means it does not designate, but leaves to be inferred.

It then proceeds to examine the scheme of adjustment or compromise reported by the Committee of Thirteen in the Senate; and it objects to it, first, that it proposes to exclude the South from the whole of California, which by its Constitution has prohibited slavery. This Constitution was the work of individuals, not a people, and if Conviso in another form. It is enough that the outrage is committed—the form is of no consequence There is nothing in this mode of extending the Proviso to abate the indignation of the South, or to baffle its determination to redress the wrong.

In the second place, the scheme takes from Texas enough territory for two large States, and transfers it to New Mexico-and the effect will be the accession of two free States. Texas ought to be quieted as to her boundaries, but this should be done by a law of Congress recognising them. The transfer proposed to be made, if the bill be ples, their education, and the public sentiment of carried, will place a tier of free States on the the section they represent, will prevent them western boundary of the Indian country, now from resenting in the only way effectual with slaveholding, and on the northern and western frontiers of Texas. Thus the Southern States will be hemmed in.

> In the third place, it objects to the proposed abolition of the slave trade in the District. If the District, it may declare free, those already

Fourthly, as to the fugitive bill, it proposes able to insult a man because it is safe to do so? means entirely inefficient to the end, and is insult- of support to the Compromise, the Tariff men is it any evidence of courage, of magnanimity, of | ing to the South in providing for a jury trial for | will be inevitably cheated. This is our predic-

below that line, would not be unacceptable.

"The South, in our opinion, might accept one other compromise, not because it is co-extensive with our rights, but because it has been twice sanctioned by those who have gone before us. If the North offers the Missouri Compromise, to extend to the Pacific ocean, the South cannot reject it, provided a distinct recognition of our right to enter the territory south of 36° 30' north latitude is expressed in the compromise. We should take this line as a partition line between the two sections of the Union; and, besides this, nothing but what the Constitution bestows. Although the Northern States would acquire by this compromise three-fourths of our vacant territory, they will have renounced the insufferable preten-sion of restricting and preventing the extension of the South, whilst they should extend indefinitely.

The Address closes with the announcement of the purpose to meet six weeks after the adjournment of Congress, to consider what then may be necessary to be done.

We have thus presented an abstract of a docunent which will hardly produce the impression throughout the country contemplated by its authors. It is hard to believe that they are sincere

and aggressiveness of the Northern States, and the danger to be apprehended to Slavery from their usurpations of political power. Look at every Department of the Federal Government; is it not under the complete control of slaveholders? The Chief Executive, a slaveholder, the Chief Justice, a slaveholder, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a slaveholder, the chairmen of all the important committees in both Houses of Congress, slaveholders or their dependents-in a word, the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial departments of the Government under the domination of slaveholders! And yet the North is a fierce, an unrelenting, overbearing Despotism, under which the South groans, in danger of being crushed to powder!

In view of such facts, to charge the North with being despotic and aggressive, indicates astounding infatuation, or rank dishonesty. How is this Despotism constituted? The South has generally furnished our Presidents-always a majority of the Judges of the Supreme Courtfor the last twenty-five years the Speakers of the House of Representatives, with two exceptions and in the Senate it possesses an equality of votes. Where then is the despotism? Note the language of the Address:

" A Sectional Despotism, totally irresponsible to the People of the South-constituted of the Representatives in Congress of the non-slaveholding Statesignorant of our feelings, condition, and institutions-reigns at Washington ! !"

That is, the free People of the non-slaveholding States, numbering twice as many as the free People of the slaveholding States, have a majority in the House of Representatives of thirty-nine and these non-slaveholding Representatives are responsible to their constituents, "totally irresponsible to the People of the South!" That is all-that is the irresponsible Despotism under which the South is degraded. On an equal ratio of representation, it cannot cast so many votes is the North! Grievance unutterable! How can such an aggression on the part of the North te pardoned? True, we do not suffer much from this irresponsible Despotism. We can generally bribe, divide, or outwit the majority. We control, of course, the organization of the Housewe shape the Committees to our liking-we bring forward what measures we please-and, if we cannot carry them through, we can block all legislation. Besides, we hold a veto power, first in the Senate, next in the Chief Executive, and a revisionary power ultimately in the Judiciary Still, until the six millions of Southern freemen can cast as many votes in the House of Representatives as the twelve millions of Northern freemen, or the representatives of the latter be made in some way responsible to the former, it is clear to the dullest vision that the South is in subjection to an intolerable, detestable Sectional

We wish the Nashville patriots a speedy deliverance from their lamentable hallucination.

# THE TARIFF AND THE COMPROMISE.

We have already adverted to the efforts made to enlist the Manufacturing Interests of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts in favor of the Compro mise bill. That private assurances have been given of a modification of the Tariff, if those Interests would assent to the demands of the slaveholders respecting the Territories, we have no doubt. It will be recollected that Mr. Clay, presenting a memorial from Pennsylvania praying an increase of duties on iron, plainly told the memorialists that nothing could be done for them till the question now agitating the country should Where the institutions and interests of two na- be adjusted : and Mr. Webster takes particular pains to impress upon the Lowell capitalists that no business of general importance can be transacted, till the agitation of the Slavery Question | Webster to citizens of Newburyport, we gave a would seem that the deputation lately in Wash- timents on the subject of slavery, as expressed in chusetts, to ascertain whether there was no great body of the Society of Friends, or Quakers. hope of additional protection, understood that It has been suggested, that whatever might be our their object could not be obtained except on con- opinion, or that of the Friends of New England, ditions. What they were may be inferred from | we had no right to speak for those of Pennsylvania. the character of the letters addressed to Mr. to whom the author of the letter may be supposed Webster for the purpose of sustaining him in his to refer more immediately.

extortions from the million?

which they are to receive additional protection age. for their fabrics, on condition of their betraying the cause of Human Freedom, we ask them to atof the Compromise bill. That paper derides denounces them as hypocritical panic-makersand hints at the policy of reducing rather than augmenting the Tariff.

" A few days since," it says, " in order to show the unfounded character of the representations of distress put affoat by the Northern manufacturers, we cited the fact that new factories were ris ing up in the South, and that, in that section of the Union, those engaged in the cotton manufacture were doing a good business. The intelligence reeived by the last arrival from Europe exhibits the same state of things in the manufacturing of the prosperity of the cotton manufacturing in-terest in every district and country in the world, except New England, before our eyes, we respect fully inquire, how it happens that the mammoth corporations of Lowell, and other manufacturing towns of New England, should be in such a state of suffering and distress? The answer is obvious It is untrue that they are. It is a shallow and miserable device, invented to enable them to get an rease of duties, in order that their profits may be swellen to an amount which no other business can hope to obtain. It is a gross attempt to impose upon the people and upon Congress, and, instead of being rewarded by an increase of duties, it of being rewarded by an increase of duties, it should be met with a reduction. We have no doubt a much larger revenue could be derived from cotton fabrics imported in the country by a reduction of duty than is now derived from them. Thus would the people obtain more cloth for the same money, and the Treasury would derive more revenue. Certainly, if the manufacturers would expect favor from Congress, they should come before that body with the truth, instead of a lie, in their mouths. We advise them to reflect that 'honesty is the best policy,' and that they will gain nothing by such shallow and transparent attempts to impose upon the intelligence of rent attempts to impose upon the intelligen

If any arrangement has been made by which an increased Tariff has been pledged on condition

jeccted, but the Address intimates that the Mis- desired, can be entertained by no one who undersouri line of 360 30' extended to the Pacific, with stands anything of the composition of that body. the express recognition of the right to hold slaves It contains a most decided anti-Tariff majority,

as all bargainers will find.

For the National Era

### A SABBATH SCENE. Scarce had the solemn Sabbath bell Ceased quivering in the steeple, Scarce had the parson to his deak

Walked stately through his people-When down the summer shaded street

A wasted female figure, With dusky brow and naked feet. Came rushing wild and eager.

She saw the white spire through the trees, She heard the sweet hymn swelling; Ob, pitying Christ! a refuge give That poor one in Thy dwelling

Like a scared fawn before the hounds. Right up the aisle she glided, Whi'e close behind her, whip in hand, A lank haired hunter strided.

She raised a keen and bitter cry, To Heaven and Earth appealing : Were manhood's generous pulses dead Had woman's heart no feeling?

A score of stout hands rose between

Flashed tearfal, yet defying. "Who dares profane this house and day!" Cried out the angry pastor.

"Why, bless your soul, the wench's a slave,
And I'm her lord and master!

" I've law and gospel on my side, And who shall dare refuse me? Down came the parson, howing low,

"My good sir, pray excuse m "Of course I know your right divine Quick, deacon, throw that Polyglott Before the wench, and trip her!"

Plump dropped the holy tome, and o'er Its sacred pages stumbling, Bound hand and foot, a slave once more

The hanless wretch lay trembling. I saw the parson tie the knots, The while his flock addressing

The Scriptural claims of slavery With text on text impressing "Although," said he, "on Sabbath day, All secular occupations

-One garal shigations "Aparter spress to bearing To every conscience tender; As Paul sent back Onesimus, My Christian friends, we send her!"

Are deadly sins, we must fulfill

Shrick rose on shrick; the Sabbath air Her wild cries tore asunder : I listened, with bushed breath, to hear

God answering with His thunder All still !- the very altar's cloth And, dumb, she turned from face to face.

For human pity seeking! i saw her dragged along the aisle, Her shackles harshly clanking; I beard the parson, over all, The Lord devontly thanking

My brain took fire; "Is this," I cried, The end of prayer and preaching? Then down with pulgit, down with priest

" Foul shame and scorn be on ve all Who turn the good to evil, To give it to the Devil!

"Than garbled text or parchment law I own a statute higher, And God is true, though every book And every man's a liar!

Just then I felt the deacon's hand In wrath my coat-tail seize on I heard the priest cry, " Infide! I started up-where now were church

Slave, master, priest, and people

only heard the supper-bell, Instead of clanging steeple. I woke; and lo! the fitting cause Of all my dream's vagaries— Two bulky pamphlets, Webster's text With Stuart's commentaries!

But, on the open window's still, O'er which the white blooms drifted

And flower and vine, like angel wings Around the Holy Mother, Waved softly there, as if God's truth And Mercy kissed each othe

And, freely, from the cherry bough Above the casement swinging, With golden bosom to the sun The oriole was singing.

As bird and flower made plain of old The lessons of the Teacher So now I heard the written Word Interpreted by Nature

For to my ear methought the breeze Bore freedom's blessed word on; THUS SAITH THE LORD: BREAK EVERY YOKE UNDO THE HRAVY BURDEN!

# WEBSTER AND "THE FRIENDS."

In our strictures upon the late letter of Danie in Congress be terminated; and his mode of ter- peremptory denial to the statement made on ington from manufacturing companies in Massa- his speech in the Senate, were approved by the

We have, however, abundant proofs of the cor-What is to be thought of these things? Men rectness of our statement, as applied to Pennsylwho make haste to be rich will risk their souls for vania Friends. It is notorious that for the last gold. Mammon is as potential now as it was half century the latter have been the friends and eighteen hundred years ago when Judas sold his advisers of the colored people; and whenever a Lord for thirty pieces of silver. Who cares how slave-case was before the courts of law, they have many slaves shall clank their chains in our free | been found standing between the oppressor and Territories, so that Monopoly may grow fat on its the oppressed; and when the decision was against the latter, they have submitted only with the But, if there be manufacturing capitalists, so deepest sympathy for the slave, and abhorrence sordid as to be contemplating an arrangement by of the law which consigned him to hopeless bond-

In 1847, through the influence in a great measure ure of the Society of Friends, a law was passed tend to the Washington Union, the great champion by the Pennsylvania Legislature, similar to that of Massachusetts, forbidding the officers of the their complaints of hard times and low prices | State from participating in the arrest of fugitives. This is precisely one of those enactments of the free States of which the South complains, and which Daniel Webster, in his late speech, con-

sidered a just ground of complaint. During the past session of the Pennsylvania Legislature, an attempt, promising at one time to be successful, was made to repeal this law. The Society of Friends, through their representatives in Philadelphia, immediately drew up a strong memorial against the repeal, in which they thus speak of the popular feeling on the subject, furnishing a remarkable commentary upon Daniel Webster's assertion, that fugitives are arrested and carried away into slavery, from Pennsylvania,

without complaint or excitement:
"The scenes of disorder and outrage, of which our citizens were often compelled to be reluctant witnesses, before the enactment of this clause, and the favorable change which has since taken place, furnish a strong and unanswerable argument in support of the section, and against its repeal.

"Should it now be rescinded by the Legisla-

ture, it will be virtually granting a license to the claimant to disturb the peace, and outrage the feelings of the community, by adopting, with im-punity, any means, which his excited and unbri-dled passions may dictate, for seizing and carrying

died passions may dictate, for seixing and carrying away his victim.

"When we consider how repugnant to the feelings and judgment of our citizens slavery and its concomitant evils are, we have reason to apprehend that the encouragement thus given to the unrestrained exertion of despotic power, will result in scenes of tunuit and riot, destructive of the peace and prejudicial to the character of the Commonwealth."

This memorial, signed by the Clerk of the it seemed as if his proceedings by which the Uni-Yearly Meeting, on the 22d of Third month of ted States were to be ejected from the possession the present year, was taken to Harrisburg by a of New Mexico, received the countenance of the Deputation of Friends, to whose labors the defeat officers of the United States, in the Territory, of the attempt at repeal is doubtless in some meas- acting under orders from the Administration. ure attributable. The papers in the interest of Nothing could be more inexcusable. It appeared chivalry? We enter no plea for men who are the slave in the State whence he may have escaped. Ition. The expectation that the Senate will con-

For these reasons, the Compromise bill is re- sent to any such modifications of the Tariff as are view" and "The Friend," aided in remonstrating against the repeal of the law. The "Friends' Weekly Intelligencer," the organ of that division of Friends who are commonly called Hicksites, (from the name of that uncompromising abolitionist, Elias Hicks,) speaks out strongly and earnestly. The editor says, that there is perhaps no body of people more unitedly opposed to the course of Daniel Webster, on the slave question, than the Society of Friends, and "none who more sincerely regret the apostacy of this eminent statesman, at a time when his talents and influence might have been favorably exerted in the cause of liberty and humanity."

We had intended to offer some comments upon other portions of the Newburyport letter, which we quite agree with General Cass is "one of the most remarkable documents of the time," but the able review of Horace Mann has rendered them unnecessary.

#### THE BLACK LAW OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The subject of the imprisonment of colored seamen in the port of Charleston has been brought before the attention of the English Government, by a recent suit, in the Thames Police Court, on the part of the steward of a British bark, for his wages, payment of which the master of the bark reinsed, on the ground the

penses of the steward for two months in the common jail at Charleston. The master stated that the steward, a respectable British subject, was taken out of his vessel, by the constables of Charleston, and dragged to the jail, from whence he would have been sold as a slave had not he (the master) paid \$100 expenses.

Lord Palmerston, on being questioned in respect to the matter in Parliament, stated that, in 1847, her Majesty's Government had directed the British Minister at Washington to remonstrate against the imprisonment of British seamen, and the violation of the British flag, but that Mr. Buchanan had verbally replied that the Federal Government could not induce the Legislature of South Carolina to repeal the law, and if pressed on the ground of the treaty of 1815, under which all subjects and citizens of the two countries were to CONVENTION TO FORM A STATE GOVERNMENT be permitted freely to enter, freely reside in, and freely quit the territories of each, would be compelled to put an end to that treaty, by giving the twelve months' notice required for that purpose. ttin towiship said that it had then been deemed ber who called Lord P.'s attention to it, as " a scandalous violation of the principles which regulated the intercourse of civilized nations." Lord Palmerston said that the law grew out of the unfortunate institution of slavery; and it was quite unnecessary for him to express the opinion which all who heard him must entertain with respect

The matter will not, we think, end here. A case similar to the one under consideration was brought to the attention of Lord Aberdeen, when Foreign Minister; and, from the correspondence which followed, it was understood that in future the personal freedom of British subjects secured by the treaty of 1815 would be respected in American ports. In the case of two colored British subjects from the Bahamas, who were thus seized and imprisoned some years ago, their jail fees not being paid, they were sold as slaves. A formal demand for them was made by the British Government-one of them was found and restored. the other could not be discovered.

The London Anti-Slavery Reporter of the 1st ultime calls upon the British press and public to demand from Government immediate measures to prevent future outrages of this kind. "We do not," say the editors, " intend that this case shall pass over lightly; it is too important to be shufflad out of sight, to suit the convenience of any parties; and the question must receive a definitive answer, whether the colored population belonging to this country and its various dependencies are to be treated as felons and slaves in any ports of the United States; and whether the British Government is unable or unwilling protect them, when going thither on their lawful

As Massachusetts and the free States generally have a stake in this controversy in common with Great Britain, we shall look with some degree of interest for its result. J. G. W.

### TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO. The President last week transmitted to the

Senate the following message: WASHINGTON, June 17, 1850. To the Senate of the United States :

I have received a copy of the resolution of the Senate of the 11th June instant, requesting me "to inform the Senate whether any orders have been issued to any military officer or officers at Santa Fe, to hold possession against the authority of Texas, or in any way to embarrass or prevent the exercise of her jurisdiction over that country—and to furnish the Senate with copies of any cordence which may have taken place between respondence which may have taken place between the War Department and the military stationed at Santa Fe since the date of my last communica-

tion to the Senate on that subject."
In reply to that resolution, I state that no such the Senate copies of all the correspondence refer-red to in the resolution. All the other orders reating to the subject matter of the resolution have been heretofore communicated to the Sen-

I have already, in a former message, referred to the fact that the boundary between Texas and New Mexico is disputed. I have now to state that nformation has been recently received, that a certain Robert S. Neighbours, styling himself con missioner of the State of Texas, has proceeded to Santa Fe with a view of organizing counties in that district under the authority of Texas. While have no power to decide the question of boundary, and no desire to interfere with it as a question title, I have to observe that the possession of the territory into which it appears that Mr. Neighbours has thus gone was actually acquired by the United States from Mexico, and has since been held by the United States, and in my opinio ought to remain until the question of boundary shall have been determined by some competent authority. Meanwhie, I think there is no reason authority. Meanwhie, I think there is no for seriously apprehending that Texas will practically interfere with the possession of the United Z. Taylor. As we read this, the President denies "the

outhority of Texas" over New Mexico. The inuiry was, whether orders had been issued to Inited States officers "to hold possession of the country against the authority of Texas." The nswer is, that " no such orders have been given," but that the possession of the territory into which it appears Mr. Neighbours has thus gone, was actually acquired by the United States from Mexico, has since been held by the United States," and ought still to be so held till the question of boundary be determined by the competent authority. The presumption is, then, that orders were issued to the United States officers, in command in New Mexico, to hold possession of the country thus acquired, not "against the authority of Texas," ecause Texas had no authority over it.

With this construction of the message, we do not understand why "a certain Robert S. Neighbours, styling himself Commissioner of the State of Texas," was permitted to usurp jurisdiction over a Territory, the possession of which had been acquired by the United States from Mexico, and held ever since that event, and which ought, in the opinion of the President, so to remain. How could he, as the Chief Executive of the United States, bound to maintain unimpaired their rights, permit Major Neighbours, styling himself consession by force? For certainly, the organiration of New Mexico into districts of Texas, and the extension of the jurisdiction of the latter over it, involved a foreible exclusion of United States authority and possession.

We confers we are unable to understand clearly the exact position of the Eexecutive towards New Mexico. After the advent of Major Neighbours.

Later intelligence shows that either the orders mate its objects." The truth of the matter is of the Executive were at first misunderstood, or that subsequent orders were issued, more in conenance with the dignity and rights of the United States. From a note addressed by Mr. Neighbours to Col. J. Munroe, United States Military Commander at Santa Fe, dated April 15th, it seems that public notice had been given, of a meeting of the citizens of that place, "to take into consideration the propriety of making a State movement, and to petition you (the Colonel) as the head of this Government, to call a Convention," &c. Mr. Neighbours deemed it proper under the circumstances to enter the following protest, addressed to the military commandant.

I deem it the more necessary thus solemnly to protest against any countenance or aid being given to this movement by the present head of this Government, in consequence of the published orders which have emanated from the War Department, and the result of an interview had between us few days since. The Government which I have the honor to represent has declared her determi-nation to maintain inviolate all the territory within her boundaries—such boundaries as were guar antied to her by her compact of union; and I would take this opportunity to refer you to the 2d section of the "Joint Resolution for annexing Texas to the United States," and preamble of the Constitution of the State of Texas, by which the terms of said "Joint Resolution" are accepted.

proved 29th December, 1845. All of which, in my opinion, would be violated by a consummation of the object of said State movement. And further to state, that I now most solemnly protest against any movements in favor of State cause, until Texas has extended her jurisdiction over this portion of her territory, or until the will of the State of Texas can be known in this matter, as guarantied to her by the enactment referred to above. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT S. NEIGHBOURS, Commissioner State of Texas. To Col. J. Munroe, Commanding 9th Military Division, &c.

The following despatch from New Orleans published in the New York Tribune, shows that his protest was unheeded-Col. Munroe issued a call for a State Convention.

NEW ORLEANS, MONDAY, June 17, 1850. The Galveston (Texas) Civilian of the 14th inst contains a proclamation by Col. Munroe, the United States Military Governor in New Mexico, directing the election of Delegates to a convention, to be held for the formation of a State Constitution unadvisable to press the matter to such an ex- and Government for the Territory. The Contremity. The outrage was spoken of by the mem- vention was to be nead at Santa Ee on the 15th

Major Neighbours, the Texan Commissioner in New Mexico, has returned to Austin, after ineffectual efforts to organize the country of Sants

The cause of his failure was the interference of the Military authorities at Santa Fe. It is stated that Colonel Munroe acted in pursuance of fresher orders from Washington, but

this is doubtful. At all events, the call for s State Convention is a most important step-a step which if sooner taken might have prevented a world of difficulty. The influence of this movement on the delibera-

ions of Congress and the fate of the Compromise bill must be of a very decided character. The organization of a State Government would doubtess meet with the approbation of the Executive, and the application of the new State for admission would give great additional weight to what is called the President's plan. We await further developments.

SENATOR DICKINSON,-The Hunkers of New York city lately gave a dinner to Senator Dickinson: there was any amount of talk and toasts about conciliation, harmony, compromise, and all that. One toast was admirable-all can drink it.

Union and Harmony in the Democratic Party-Desirable, if founded on principle-detestable, if Daniel and his friends will find themselves "outsiders."

NATIONAL FREE SOIL CONVENTION .- The New York Evening Post publishes a call for "A Grand National Mass Convention" in favor of Free Soil, to be held at Philadelphia, July 4th. Some of our friends had been contemplating a similar Convention, at a somewhat later date; but this call seems to anticipate them :

FREE SOIL, FREEMEN, LIBERTY AND UNION

A Grand National Mass Convention of persons without distinction of party, friendly to the im-mediate unconditional admission of California into the Union, with her present Constitution, will be held at Philadelphia on the 4th of July, 1850, to celebrate the Anniversary of American Liberty, to take measures to promote the above

A grand procession will be formed; the dele gations being designated by the names of their

Newspapers friendly are requested to inserthis notice The fare on the railroad will be greatly re duced.

NEW YORK COMMITTEE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

We learn from the Bradford (Pa.) Democrat, that R.S. Magraw, who was President of the late State Democratic Convention in Pennsylvania, is as strongly opposed to the extension of Slavery as Mr. Wilmot himself. When the resolutions were reported, containing the Baltimore platform on the Slavery question, he took the floor, moved an amendment to the resolutions in the words of the Pittsburgh resolutions adopted last year, and made an eloquent speech in support of it. But the whole matter had been cut and dried by the managers. The previous question was carried, all amendments and debate were cut off, and the resolutions as reported were adopted, but few members voting upon the question.

During the proceedings of the Convention a fact was disclosed, showing the kind of influence sometimes brought to bear on politicians. Mr. Hubley was one of the candidates for the nomi nation of Canal Commissioner, and was the favorite of Ex-Senator Cameron. While the canvass was in progress, Mr. Johnston, a member. charged that an attempt had been made to carry Hubley's nomination by bribery; that a member present had received five \$20 bills, on condition of voting for that candidate. Upon being pressed for the name, he gave that of Mr. Donahue, of Philadelphia county, a vice president of the Convention, who immediately rose, and threw the money down upon the table in front of the President, saying-" Here's the trash-I despise it! Mr. Green, another delegate from the same county, also threw down upon the table \$100, which he said he had received from the same source. A committee of investigation was appointed,

which made a report, exculpating all the candidates and State officers present, but condemning in the strongest terms W. B. Rankin and Samue Overshine, from whom the money was procured. These men probably were mere tools of others, whose station shielded them from censure.

FREE SOIL STATE CONVENTON IN MICHIGAN-This Convention assembled at Marshall, Michigan, on the 29th of May. It passed strong reso lutions against the Compromise bill of Mr. Clay, and reaffirming the principles of the Buffalo Convention of 1848. The following resolution recommending a more thorough organization, was

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to our friends in all parts of the State, a thorough and complete organization, by the appointment of county and town committees of those who will vor faithfully to effect such organizat and that they be requested to furnish their names and post office address to the State Central Com-

CONNECTICUT.—June 20th, there were two ballotings for Senator, without result. On the last ballot the vote stood—R. J. Baldwin, (Whig) 93; L. P. Waldo, (Loco.) 39; Caelin, (Loco.) 61; Cleveland, (Free Soil.) 14; Soattering, 6.—Total 213.

A resolution was then passed to postpone the election to the next meeting of the Legislature. The New York Tribune says that "the Coalition that carried Connectiont last April lacks the

that the Old Line Democrats failed to secure a majority in the Legislature. The Free-Soilers exerted themselves to such purpose, as to return enough members to hold the balance of power. Through their wisdom and fidelity to principle, United States Senate one of their own stripe, was

every attempt of the Hunkers to send to the Efforts were made to obtain the sanction of the Legislature to the policy of Non-Intervention on the subject of Slavery, and to the Compromise of Mr. Clay, but they failed. What the final action was, we have not learned. The vote by which the election of a United States Senator was post-

#### LITERARY NOTICES.

poned till the next General Assembly, stood-

yeas 129, nays 79. The Legislature adjourned

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE. July, 1850. For sale by W. Adam Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D.

last Saturday.

This fine periodical possesses unusual attrac ions this month. It contains among its embel lishments an exquisite portrait of Jenny Lind, sa she appears in La Sonnambula, and a likeness of the enterprising and persevering editor, George R. Graham, as he appears "while enjoying himself" in the easy arm-chain of " -is a handsome portrait of a very handsome man and will be welcomed and preserved by his many

editorial friends and by the fairer sex generally. There is a brilliant list of contributors for this month, including most of our distinguished writers. Among many fine articles, we have been struck by an admirable Essay on the Genius of Burns, by Henry Giles, and a poem of remarkable beauty by Helen Irving, entitled " A REQUIEM BY THE SEA." We find nothing in this number from Grace Greenwood. We fear she grows indolent with the rising of the mercury, and deals more in fans than fancy now-a-days.

SARTAIN'S UNION MAGAZINE. July, 1850. For sale as This is also a fine number, with handsome illustrations and a noble list of contributors. A pub-

lication must succeed, backed by such writers as Fredrica Bremer, Harriet Martineau, Rev. Orville Dewey, Mrs. Kirkland, T. B. Read, Bayard Taylor, &c. By the way, there is in this number an admirable descriptive poem by Taylor, the young trateller-poet, "The Pinz Panny MONTEREY." THE KNICKERBOCKES. June, 1850. This ever-excellent periodical keeps its old

hold on the favor of the public. This number, beside many interesting articles from able contributors, and some fine literary notices, has over twenty pages of the Editor's Table, written, as usual, in an easy, witty, and eminently readable HANDBOOK OF MEDICIVAL GROGRAPHY AND HISTORY BY

Wilhelm Putz. Translated by Rev. R. B. Paul. New New York: D. Appleton & Co. Duodeeimo, pp 211. For sale at Farnham's, Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C. We are sorry to state that one-fifth of this little book is made up of questions. The remainder is vouched for by Professor Greene, of Providence, as an accurate and reliable guide in studying the

history of the period. Such a book tells you what to look for and where to find it. We suppose nobody is guilty of the error of supposing that it tells much of the history itself; and it would be both blank and cruel if used as a text-book to instruct youthful pupils. THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF THE FRENCH RE-

PUBLIC. From the French of Lamartine. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1850. Pp 163. For sale at Smack Taylor's.

An address to the French people, "on the Af If the former kind of union be perfected, ticular." Unfortunately, no date is given, to show what period of time it applies to; and the revoluions in France of these last two years are hardly to be counted on one's fingers. If we were as sure of the author's statesmanship as of his eloquence, it would be a book of the highest interest and value. Apart from the busy scene, there is nothing in it which has tempted us through many pages of a rhetoric which we do not admire.

> A Kuy to the Exercises in Ollendorff's Method of Learning French. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1850. Pp. 29 For sale at Farnham's.

RAILWAY ECONOMY. By Dionysius Lardner. New York at Franck Taylor's. A very large amount of information respecting

railways, steam navigation, and the electric tele graph, is here put together, in a very interesting and apparently careful and thorough manner. A full index and a table of contents, consisting of twenty pages, add much to its value as a book of reference. We observed some criticism on a portion of Dr. Lardner's statistics, in the Westminster Review; and where strict accuracy is required as the basis of calculations, we would recommend one to refer to that. As a compend of popular information, we should think it difficult for this work to be surpassed. We remember being strongly impressed once with the Doctor's argument showing the a priori impossibility of ocean steam navigation; but he has in this work abundantly acquitted himself of his debt of gratitude, for having found it on a certain occasion

not only practicable but convenient. MEZZOFANTI'S System of Learning Languages, applied to the Study of French. By J. Roemer. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1850. Duodeelme, pp. 297. For sale at

Faraham's. A French "Progressive Reader," with a dicionary of idioms, &c., a slight notice of Cardinal Mezzofanti, and a very brief essay on the structure of the language. The extracts seem to be of an agreeable sort, and of sufficient variety. Of the peculiar merit of the book we cannot speak confidently till we have tried it.

WHIG STATE CONVENTION IN PENNSYLVANIA -This Convention met at Philadelphia on Wednesday week. Joshua Dungan, of Bucks, was nominated for the office of Canal Commissioner, Joseph Henderson as Surveyor General, Henry W. Snyder as Auditor General. A long series of resolutions was adopted. They warmly commend the present Whig Governor, Mr. Secretary Meredith, and General Taylor; and insist upon the Tariff policy. Not a word is said in favor of the Wilmot Previso, but the President's plan is fully sustained :

" Resolved, That while the Whigs of Pennsy!

sustained:

"Resolved, That while the Whigs of Pennsylvania are opposed, as they ever have been, to the extension of slavery, they hail the people of the South as their brethren, in whose prosperity they rejoice, and whose constitutional rights they are prepared to sustain and defend. That in the spirit of good neighborhood, whenever the interests of different sections of our glorious Union are supposed to conflict, they are prepared now, as they have ever been, to stand upon the ground of mutual forbearance, heartily responding to the sentiment expressed by General Taylor, in his message to Congress, that the great element of its strength is to be found in the regard and affection of the people for each other.

"Resolved, That this Convention cordially approve the recommendation of General Taylor for prove the recommendation of General Taylor for prove the recommendation of General Taylor for the admission of Californis into the Union with the present boundaries; that we hold it to be the duty of Congress to receive her with the free Constitution that her citizens have formed, without imposing on them may conditions or restrictions of any kind, it being the inalienable right tions of any kind, it being the inalienable right tions of any kind, it being the inalienable right tions of any kind, it being the inalienable right tions of any kind, it being the inalienable right tions of the citizens of avery State to make such provision for their security and welfare as they may deem expedient, and subject only to the propositions of the United States. That as the constitution of the United States. That as the soil of the territory ceded by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was free when it was acquired from Mexico, we do solemnly protest against any policy by which the laws of Texas, carrying with them the institution of slavery, may be extended over any part of it."

New Hampshier.—In the Legislature of New

NEW HAMPSHIRE.-In the Legislature of New lampshire, on the 12th instant, the votes of the copie on revising the Constitution, were count-

d, with the following results : For Revision -14,482

43,359